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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 02017 120143Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-06
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SAL-01 /128 W
----------120151Z 004312 /63
P R 120107Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2616
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS UR KS US JA
SUBJ: MEDIA TREATMENT OF FISHERIES ISSUES

REF: SEOUL 1803

1. ROK NON-TRADE MEDIA HAVE CONTINUED TO GIVE PROMINENT, BUT NO LONGER LEAD ARTICLE PLACEMENT TO WIRE SERVICE DESPATCHES AND LOCALLY SOURCED FISHING NEWS INCLUDING COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO VESSEL CREW MEMBERS RETURNING TO PUSAN FROM KAMCHATKA. AN UNDATED REPORT CARRIED MARCH 9, 1977 CITING FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES INDICATES THAT KOREA HAS BEEN GIVEN AN ADDITIONAL 2,490 METRIC TON QUOTA ALLOWANCE (BERING SEA 1600 TONS AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS 890 TONS) FOR MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTAL CATCHES. THAT AMOUNT HAD REPORTEDLY BEEN OVERLOOKED BY THE USG AT THE TIME QUOTAS WERE PRESENTED TO THE ROKG AND IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A USG ANNOUNCEMENT ON MARCH 4, 1977.

2. MEDIA COMMENT HAS ASSUMED SLIGHTLY GREATER EMOTIONAL TONE
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AS COMMENTATORS ARE TEMPTED TO SPECULATE ON THE SOCIAL IMPLI-CATIONS FOR KOREA OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF US, SOVIET AND OTHER FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONES.

3. EDITORIALISTS CONTINUE TO DIRECT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CRITICISM TOWARD US AND USSR AS REPORTED REFTEL, BUT THEIR CHIEF TARGETS ARE THE ROK MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND

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OFFICE OF FISHERIES. MOFA HAS BEEN CHARGED BY ONE OR MORE JOURNALS WITH "INSINCERITY" IN SAYING THAT IT IS DOING ITS BEST IN STAYING ON TOP OF THE SITUATION BECAUSE KOREAN JOURNALISTS, RATHER THAN THE ROK EMBASSY WASHDC WHO HAD FIRST LEARNED OF THE ADDITIONAL CATCH QUOTAS. MOFA AND OFA HAVE BEEN UNDER FIRE FOR "MISCALCULATING" US NORTH PACIFIC ZONE CATCH RECORD AT 60,000 TONS RATHER THAN 140,000. OFA IS UNDER FIRE FOR SUCH "FAULETS" AS "IRRESPONSIBILITY" IN FAILING TO TAKE UP AND ITALIAN FIRM'S INQUIRY RE A JOINT FISHING VENTURE, AND "POOR POLICY ADVICE" ON DEVELOPING AND/OR ASSURING ACCESS TO OTHER DEEPSEA AREAS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: MOFA OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT FEDERAL REGISTER OF MARCH 4 ANNOUNCES INCREASE OF ROK INCIDENTAL CATCH ALLOTMENT. ROKG IS THE MAIN MEDIA SCAPEGOAT ALTHOUGH SOME JINGOISTIC SENTIMENT AGAINST THE US HAS APPEARED LOCALLY IN THE PUSAN AREA (KUKCHE SINBO) WHICH IS KOREA'S DEEPSEA FISHING CENTER. FUNDAMENTALLY INDUSTRY INTEREST APPEARS TO BE CENTERED ON SEEKING ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT FOR DISPLACED TRAWLERS AND CREWS RATHER THAN IN DETERMINING FAULT.
STERN

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Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FISHERIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL02017
Document Source: CORE
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770366/aaaacfoc.tel
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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SAS ID: 3127331
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Subject: MEDIA TREATMENT OF FISHERIES ISSUES
TAGS: EFIS, UR, KS, US, JA
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